

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An inkjet printing mechanism comprising:
a media support which support print media in a printzone;
a first carriage which scans an inkjet printhead across a print surface of the said print media in the printzone, wherein the first carriage supports a first portion of a heating element proximal to the printhead that scans the print surface with the printhead; and
a second portion of the heating element carried by a second carriage across a backing surface of said print media, wherein the second portion of the heating element scans the backing surface of said print media in synchronous alignment to the first portion of the heating element.
2. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said heating element comprises a microwave heating element.
3. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 2 wherein said microwave heating element includes a bifurcated waveguide spanning said first portion and said second portion of said heating element and defining a heat zone therebetween.
4. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claims 3 wherein said heat zone scans synchronously with said carriage.

5. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said heating element comprises a radio frequency heating element.

6. (Previously Presented) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 5 wherein said radio frequency heating element includes as said first portion first electrode and as said second portion second electrodes, a heat zone being positioned therebetween.

7. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 6 wherein said heat zone scans synchronously with said carriage.

8. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 1 further including a stationary blower producing an airflow directed at media when in the printzone.

9. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said heating element comprises a radio frequency applicator.

10. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said heating element comprises a radio frequency applicator.

11. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said printhead direct ink droplets into said printzone and onto said media, and said heating element creates a heat zone at a surface of said media.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said first and second heating element portions define a gap therebetween, said gap comprising a heat zone generated by said heating element.

14. (Previously Presented) An inkjet printing mechanism comprising:
a printzone;

a first carriage opposing a print surface of print media in the printzone, said first carriage supporting an inkjet printhead and a first heating element portion that scan across the print surface; and

a second carriage opposing a backing surface of print media in the printzone, said second carriage holding a second heater element portion, said first and second heater element portions forming a heater element that synchronously scans with said first and second heater element portions in alignment.

15. (Previously Presented) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 14 wherein the print media in the printzone has the print surface exposed to the printhead to receive ink therefrom, and has the backing surface opposite the print surface.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 14 wherein said inkjet printhead projects ink droplets into said printzone as print imaging on media when in said printzone, said print imaging receiving heat energy from said heater element.

18 (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 14 wherein said first heater element portion comprises a microwave energy source and a first portion of a waveguide;

said second heater element portion comprises a microwave load and a second portion of a waveguide;

said first and second waveguide portions together forming a waveguide directing microwave energy from said source to said load; and

said printzone occupies space between said first portion of said waveguide and said second portion of said waveguide.

19. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 14 wherein said first and second heater element portions cooperatively form a microwave applicator.

20. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 14 wherein said printing mechanism synchronously scans said first carriage and said second carriage to maintain a selected alignment therebetween.

21. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 20 wherein said heating element is a microwave heating element, with at least one of said first carriage and said second carriage holding a microwave load and the other one of said first carriage and said second carriage supporting a microwave source.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of applying print imaging by ink droplet deposition on media and drying said print imaging, the method comprising the steps:

reciprocating a first carriage across a print surface of media in a printzone;
projecting from said first carriage ink droplets as said print imaging;
projecting from a first heating element on said first carriage radiant energy applied as heat energy to said media; and

synchronously scanning a second carriage across a backing surface of media relative to said first carriage, said second carriage holding a second heater element in cooperative alignment with said first heater element to apply said heat energy to said media, said media interposed therebetween.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein said first and second heater elements comprise a microwave heater.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein said first and second heater elements comprise an RF heater.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 further comprising controllably advancing media in a feed direction through said printzone.

27-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A printing method, comprising:
applying ink having a print swath height and an evaporatable component to a print media; and

thereafter, moving a heat zone across said media to accelerate evaporation of said evaporatable component, said heat zone having a heat swath height greater than said print swath height, both heights measured in a direction of print media advancement; and

receiving by said ink in said print swath a heat energy through a first and second reciprocation of a being generated by cooperative first and second heating elements moving synchronously in alignment on opposite sides of said print media interposed therebetween.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 wherein said moving comprises scanning said first and second heating elements across said print media.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 wherein said applying comprises scanning a printhead across said media.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 further comprising generating said heat zone using microwave heating produced cooperative by said first and second heating elements.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 further comprising generating said heat zone from RF heating produced cooperative by said first and second heating elements.

37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 further comprising advancing said media through said printzone between each of a series of said applying and said moving.

38. (Previously Presented) An inkjet printing mechanism comprising:
means for reciprocating a carriage relative to a printzone;
printing means for applying print imaging to media in said printzone and supported by said carriage means; and
means for applying heat energy to said media and supported by said carriage means, said means for applying heat energy including cooperative first and second heater elements, said first heater element being positioned opposing a print surface of said media and said second heater element opposing a backing surface of said media and scanning in synchronous alignment with said first heater element.

39. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 38 wherein said means for applying heat energy comprises a microwave energy source.

40. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 38 wherein said means for applying heat energy comprises an RF energy source.

41. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism according to claim 38 wherein said printing means comprises an inkjet printing device projecting ink droplets therefrom.

42. (Currently Amended) An inkjet printing mechanism comprising:

a reciprocating printing device projecting ink droplets therefrom along a print swath, said print swath having print swath height; and

a reciprocating heating element projecting energy therefrom and applied as heat energy to media adjacent thereto along a heat swath height, said heat swath height being greater than said print swath height, both heights measured in a direction of print media advancement;

whereby print imaging produced by said ink droplets receives said heat energy through a first and second reciprocation of a first and second portion of said heating element moving synchronously in alignment on opposite sides of said media.